PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,
32, SOUTH STREET,
BRIDPORT.

December 1941.

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRIDPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for 1940. It is abbreviated according to the instructions of the Ministry of Health. May I take this opportunity of thanking the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R.N. Armstrong, for his most valuable help, the other Council Officers for their co-operation and all Members of the Council for their courtesy.

I am,
Yours Obediently,

ADAM ARMIT,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health ...	Adam Armit, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor.	R.N. Armstrong, M.Inst., M & Cy.E., A.R.S.I.
Clerk to the Medical Officer..	Miss J. Shillaker.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in Acres)	686.5
Registrar-General's estimate of	
(a) resident population, mid-1940...	5,903
(b) average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates	5,903
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1940) according to rate books	1,950
Rateable Value	£43,883
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£ 172

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	IM etc.		B.R.		
	M	F	M	F	
Live Births.					
Total	51	35	51	34	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1940.... 14.39
Legitimate	50	35	50	34	
Illegitimate	1	–	1	–	

	M	F	
Still Births.			
Total	2	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births..... 34.09
Legitimate	2	1	
Illegitimate	–	–	

Deaths			Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population..... 14.81
Total	59	49	
	108		

Comparability Factor... 0.81

Deaths from Special Causes.

	Total	M	F
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)...	14	7	7
" " Measles (all ages)..	-	-	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages). ...	-	-	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-	-	-

Deaths from Puerperal Causes. (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List).

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total(live & still)births.
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis.	Nil	Nil
No. 30. Other Puerperal Causes..	Nil	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	M	F
Total	3	1
Legitimate	3	1
Illegitimate	-	-

No. of Deaths	4.
Death Rate All Infants per 1,000 live births	46.5
" " Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births...	47.1
" " Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births...	0

Camparison Tables.

	England & Wales.	Bridport Borough.
Live Birth Rate... ...	14.6	14.39
Still Birth Rate.. ...	0.55	34.09
Death Rate	14.3	14.81
Infantile Death Rate ...	55	46.5

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The new County Laboratory has been of very great service during the year, and I am grateful to the Bacteriologist and his Staff for their assistance to me. Ambulance facilities are adequate.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

There has been no change regarding the Water Supply. Regular analyses have shown it to be Grade 1, P.H.M.S., No.71. No chlorination has been employed. The supply was not sufficient during the whole year and the Town had to go without water for certain periods of the day on many occasions.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

No. of Informal Notices ...	26	No. complied with	26
No. of Statutory Notices ...	0	No. complied with	0
No. of Inspections ...	177		

? previously

HOUSING.

No. of dwelling-houses Inspected	68	No. of Inspections	126
No. of Inspections under Housing Consol. Regs ...	3	No. of Inspections	7
No. of dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation ...	0	No. not reasonably fit ...	36
No. rendered fit after Informal Action by L.A. ...	36	No. of Notices	36
No. of Demoliton Orders ...	0	No. demolished	0
No. of new houses erected ...	7	No. erected by L.A.	0
No. erected by L.A. ...	237	Approximate No. of working class houses in District ...	

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

No. of Persons on Register ...	26	No. of Dairies on Register...	11
No. of Inspections ...	27	No. of Inspections of Milk Shops ...	17
No. of Notices served ...	3	No. complied with ...	3

There is one Pasteurising Plant in the District. No samples were taken for the Phosphatase Test. Fourteen samples of Ordinary Milk were analysed. Three of these failed to pass the Accredited Standard.

Meat Supply.

The Meat Supply comes from a Slaughter House in the Bridport Rural District where all the slaughtering of animals is done for West Dorset and the meat is inspected at the Slaughter House by a Veterinary Surgeon.

Foods and Drugs Act.

Food Stores were regularly inspected.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

An epidemic of Measles occurred during the year when 129 cases were notified. The number of Diphtheria cases was higher than the average and there were also 7 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

From the Schools were notified 89 cases of Mumps, 168 cases of German Measles. Influenza was also prevalent in epidemic form.

The Council agreed to provide artificial immunisation against Diphtheria, and a commencement was made in December, when 23 Pre-School and 237 School Children received their first inoculation of 0.1 c.c. Alum Precipitated Toxoid (Borroughs and Wellcome).

Existing facilities for the typing of pneumococci are present in the County Laboratory. No Measles serum was used during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1940.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	–	–	–
Scarlet Fever	6	5	–
Diphtheria	16	15	–
Enteric Fever(including Paratyphoid).	–	–	–
Puerperal Pyrexia..	–	–	–
Pneumonia	3	–	–
Erysipelas	1	–	–
Acute Poliomyelitis	–	–	–
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	–	–	–
Whooping Cough	1	–	–
Measles	129	1	–
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	7	5	2

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or Section 172 of the P.H.A., 1936.

NEW CASES NOTIFIED.

Four Pulmonary Males, ages 36, 43, 52 and 65 years, three Pulmonary Females, ages 12, 20 and 42 years, one Non-Pulmonary Male age 7 years and one Non-Pulmonary Female age 33 years were notified during the year.

Three Pulmonary Males, ages 27, 43 and 65 years, two Pulmonary Females, ages 20 and 33 years and one Non-Pulmonary Female age 33 years died during the year.

The notification of Tuberculosis in the Area is very satisfactory. All patients who died from the disease were on the Tuberculosis Register.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No Inspections were made,

PORT HEALTH.

No Infectious Disease was found during the year, and no Notices were served as regards defects. No rats were destroyed, and the water supply and sanitation are the same as described in previous Reports.